



Date: May 12, 2011

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager

Through: Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager

From: Kevin Dick, Director of Economic and Workforce Development
Nicholas McCoy, Senior Workforce Development Manager

Subject: Citizen's Matter – Triangle Citizens Rebuilding Communities Proposal to Provide Contractual Services.

Executive Summary

This item has been prepared to address a citizen's matter submitted to the City by Mrs. Victoria Peterson on behalf of the organization Triangle Citizens Rebuilding Communities (TCRC) to provide contractual services to City of Durham. This request is being presented to the City following similar requests made by Mrs. Peterson to the Durham Workforce Development Board to renew funding for a contract between TCRC and the City (that ended on January 31, 2011) to provide services for young adults to receive job-training in network cabling copper and fiber-optic based systems and assist graduates with job placement as network installers.

Background

Mrs. Victoria Peterson is requesting that the City enter into a contract through the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to provide services for young adults to receive industry certified job-training in network cabling copper and fiber-optic based systems and assist graduates with job placement as network installers.

On November 19, 2009, the Durham Workforce Development Board (DWDB) agreed to receive a Pilot Grant from the NC Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Development (DWD) in an amount of \$165,000 – and subsequently approved to accept a demonstration proposal from TCRC, Inc in the amount of \$150,000 to work with up to 75 young adults to receive fiber optic based telecommunication systems training and related entry-level certifications. The remaining \$15,000 was used to cover administrative costs associated with administering the contract. The contract began on January 5, 2010 and ended on January 31, 2011.

Issues/Analysis

At the November 18th 2010 DWDB meeting, TCRC representative Mrs. Victoria Peterson submitted a proposal to staff and to the DWDB in the amount of \$301,009.50 to provide 5 certification courses that would provide 40 students with 260 cumulative classroom hours in standards established by the Telecommunications Industry.

On December 9, 2010- staff consulted with Roger Shackelford, Director of the DWD to discuss availability of additional pilot demonstration funds in 2011 and viability of funding the TCRC grant for a second year. Staff was informed that the state does not have any additional funds available to allocate

in their budget until after July 1, 2011 for a second grant to TCRC – and would weigh future requests from TCRC against other proposals.

On December 22, 2010- staff, in conjunction with Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager met with representatives (Mr. and Mrs. Peterson) from TCRC to discuss the status of the proposal submitted by TCRC. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were informed at this meeting that any decision to fund a second proposal that would be brought before the DWDB would be based on the following: 1) availability of funds and 2) program performance of the existing program.

Based on a review of the proposal and the results from said meeting, OEWD staff and the DWDB are unable to make any recommendation to fund or not fund a proposal based on the following:

- AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL FUNDS – With the 11/18/2010 DWDB approval of the 2010-2011 Budget all funds are currently obligated under contract, for personnel, or for operations to support areas identified as priorities in the 2010-12 DWDB Strategic Plan.
- AVAILABILITY OF STATE FUNDS The state will not be considering the provision of additional funds (if any) until after July 1, 2011.
- OEWD has not received requested data from TCRC related to the final performance of the 2010-2011 contract related to job placement and retention percentage.